

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

SIL-01 LAB-04 COME-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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R 271550Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1424

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2463

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PFOR, UR, DA

SUBJECT: DANISH TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO VISIT
SOVIET UNION

REF: COPENHAGEN 1545

1. THE DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) WILL SEND AN
OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION NEXT APRIL
OR MAY AS GUESTS OF THE SOVIET ALL-UNION CENTRAL COUNCIL
OF TRADE UNIONS (AUCCTU). ACCORDING TO AN LO SOURCE, THE
INVITATION WAS EXTENDED IN MID-AUGUST IN A LETTER FROM PYOTR PIMENOV,
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE AUCCTU.

2. THE LO HAS AGREED TO SEND A "SMALL DELEGATION",
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LEAVING THE COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION OPEN FOR THE

TIME BEING. WHETHER NIELSEN HIMSELF WILL GO WILL DEPEND UPON THE INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION NEXT SPRING, INCLUDING, AS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR, THE INTENSITY OF THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND COMMUNISTS IN THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AT THAT TIME.

3. COMMENT: THE COMMUNIST-LED "CHAIRMEN'S INITIATIVE", A COMMITTEE WHICH PROVIDES THE LEADERSHIP FOR THE VARIOUS LEFTIST FACTIONS WITHIN THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT, HAS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS ATTACKED NIELSEN PERSONALLY AS THE EMBODIMENT OF ALL THEY DISLIKE IN THE PRESENT SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC LO ESTABLISHMENT. THUS, THE INVITATION FROM THE AUCCTU, WHEN IT BECOMES PUBLICLY KNOWN, WILL BADLY UNDERCUT THIS LOCAL COMMUNIST TACTIC. IT MAY WELL BE THAT THE GREAT PERSONAL VICTORY NIELSEN WON AT THE LO CONGRESS IN MAY (SEE REFTTEL) HAS CAUSED THE COMMUNIST OPPOSITION TO ABANDON THAT TACTIC ALTOGETHER.

4. THE INVITATION MAY, ALTERNATIVELY, SIMPLY REFLECT A SHIFT IN SOVIET-DANISH LABOR RELATIONS DUE TO THE CHANGED LEADERSHIP IN THE AUCCTU. SHELEPIN HAD REFUSED TO INVITE A DANISH DELEGATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE BALL WAS IN THE LO'S COURT FOLLOWING NIELSEN'S 1968 VISIT TO THE USSR.

NIELSEN, WHO WAS IN THE USSR DURING THE SOVIET OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLAVOKIA, WAS OFFENDED AT NOT BEING INFORMED ABOUT THAT EVENT BY HIS HOSTS UNTIL SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. CONSEQUENTLY, IN THE INTERVENING YEARS HE HAS REFUSED TO ADMIT ANY OBLIGATION TO EXTEND A RETURN INVITATION.

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